

REMARKS

The foregoing claim cancellations are intended to place the subject application in better form for consideration on appeal. Specifically, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 15-18, and 20 have been cancelled. In addition, claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of its base claim 1, and claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of its base claim 15 and intervening claim 16.

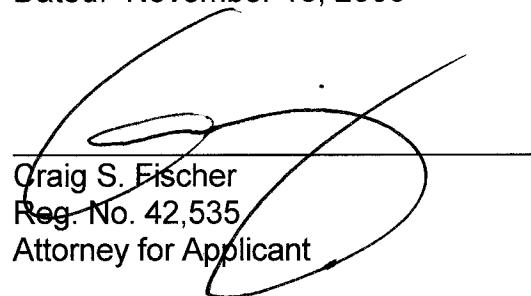
The aforementioned Office Action of August 25, 2006 rejected claims 1-3 of the subject application under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Strumbos (US Patent No. 3,605,672). The Office Action also rejected claims 5-7, 9 and 14 of the subject application under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Strumbos in view of Kort Nozzles. The Office Action also rejected claim 20 of the subject application under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over the combination of Strumbos and Bernoulli's principle. The Office Action also rejected claim 15 of the subject application under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Tash et al. (US Patent No. 4,963,073) in view of Strumbos. Finally, the Office Action rejected claims 1-20 of the subject application under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Popov (US Patent No. 6,250,890) in view of Blackshear et al. (US Patent No. 3,667,069).

While no admission is made that the rejected claims are actually anticipated by or obvious over the cited references, the Applicant has chosen to cancel claims as discussed above in order to place them in better form for consideration on appeal. It should be noted that because this paper complies with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1), the Applicant respectfully assumes that the foregoing amendments will be entered. In particular, 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) states in part that "[A]fter a final rejection . . . [A]n amendment may be made canceling claims . . ." This paper merely cancels claims and rewrites dependent claims 3 and 19 as independent claims. No new matter has been added and the scope of the remaining claims has not been affected.

In an effort to expedite and further the prosecution of the subject application, the applicant kindly invites the Examiner to telephone the applicant's attorney at (805) 278-8855 if the Examiner has any comments, questions or concerns, wishes to discuss any aspect of the prosecution of this application, or desires any degree of clarification of this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,
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